

IMPROVED UNIFORM INTERNATIONAL

Sunday School Lesson

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LESSON FOR JUNE 5

MAKING THE NATION CHRISTIAN.

LESSON TEXT—Psalm 33:12; Prov. 14:34; Rom. 12:17-21.
GOLDEN TEXT—Righteousness exalteth a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people.—Prov. 14:34.
REFERENCE MATERIAL—Deut. 5:6-7; Psalm 33:12-17.
PRIMARY TOPIC—Jesus' Love for His Country.
JUNIOR TOPIC—Loving and Helping Our Country.
INTERMEDIATE AND SENIOR TOPIC—Loyalty to Our Country.
YOUNG PEOPLE AND ADULT TOPIC—Christian Principles in Law and Government.

Not "Making the Nation Christian," if the lesson committee please. Neither of the passages chosen for today's lesson has any bearing on the title chosen by the committee. However, they do set forth some important teachings regarding the nation, and the teacher should carefully bring out their vital meaning. The New Testament nowhere teaches that any nation will be made Christian in this dispensation; but rather that Christ is gathering out from among the nations the people who shall constitute His church, showing that God's purpose is the salvation of individuals.

1. "Blessed is the Nation Whose God is the Lord." (Psalm 33:12.)

This verse shows Israel's peculiar distinction. Israel is the only nation of which, in name even, it could be said that Jehovah was its God. He called this nation into being for a peculiar purpose. It was not a case where a nation chose God, but where God chose a nation for His own inheritance. It would be blessed to have an inheritance in God, but how infinitely more blessed to be God's inheritance! No nation can have Israel's unique place, but the nation which today gives God His rightful place in its affairs shall be singularly blessed. America has been singularly blessed in the times when she acknowledged God. In the recent awful war when the national congress set aside a day of prayer, God heard the cry of His people and victory was given to the allies.

II. A Nation's Glory (Prov. 14:34). The only fame for which a nation may justly be proud is righteousness, the rendering to all their duties. It is this that makes a nation strong and influential. A nation that sins—counts its sacred covenants as "scraps of paper," becomes an outcast among the nations and eventually goes down to ignominious defeat. The nation that has no righteousness as its standard has no right to exist.

III. Christian Citizenship (Rom. 12:1-10).

The believer in Christ is a citizen as well as a church member. Intelligent Christians will show loyalty to the state as well as to the church.

1. The Christian's obligation to the state (vs. 1-7). This obligation is upon all Christians. The reason this obligation is universal is that civil government is ordained of God, and the rulers are His representatives. Society could not exist without government. It is God's purpose that man should live under authority. To refuse obedience to civil authority is to resist God.

(2) The spirit of such obedience (v. 8). It is to be conscientious, that is, it is to be regarded not merely as serving a good purpose, but morally right.

(3) The nature of this obedience (vs. 6, 7). (a) Payment of personal and property taxes. The citizens who enjoy the benefits of government are morally bound to support it. (b) Payment of duty upon merchandise and license fees. The business exchange between nations must be regulated. For such regulations expense is incurred, for which benefits the citizens should pay. (c) Veneration of magistrates. "Fear to whom fear." Those who fear God should venerate His representatives, that is, civil rulers. (d) "Honor to whom honor," that is, honor of civil servants because of the ministry they perform.

2. The Christian's obligation to his fellow citizens (vs. 8-10). This is summed up in the word "love." Love is a perpetual obligation. The only debt that is right to owe is that of love. This love forbids defrauding in matters of property; it forbids going into debt where there is no reasonable certainty of being able to meet the obligation; it forbids defrauding in matters of moral purity. Where there is love, adultery cannot be committed; it forbids murder; it forbids stealing; it forbids coveting; for coveting means a desire for that which belongs to another; it forbids the working of any ill to one's neighbor.

The Lord's Sabbath. And the Lord spake unto Moses, saying, Speak unto the children of Israel, saying, Verily, my Sabbath ye shall keep: for it is a sign between me and you throughout your generations; that ye may know that I am the Lord that doth sanctify you.—Exodus 31:12, 13.

The Righteous Should Rejoice. Be glad in the Lord, and rejoice, ye righteous; and about for joy, all ye that are upright in heart. Psalms, 32:11.

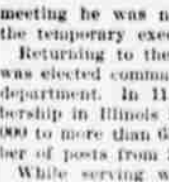
THE AMERICAN LEGION

(Copy for This Department supplied by
The American Legion News Service.)

ONE OF LEGION'S FOUNDERS

Col. Milton Foreman's Connection
Dates Back to the Original
Paris Caucus.

Col. Milton J. Foreman, national executive committee member of the Illinois department of the American Legion, is a Chicago lawyer, who for many years has been active in public and military affairs. His connection with the Legion dates back to the original Paris caucus at which time the idea of forming a Legion was conceived. At that



meeting he was named chairman of the temporary executive committee.

Returning to the United States, he was elected commander of the Illinois department. In 11 months the membership in Illinois increased from 10,000 to more than 65,000, and the number of posts from 220 to 682.

While serving with the First Illinois cavalry, in 1894, Mr. Foreman acquired an active interest in military affairs. He served with that organization during the Spanish-American war and rose to the rank of captain.

After the war Mr. Foreman began the practice of law in Chicago, and became major in the First cavalry. In 1914 he was promoted to lieutenant colonel, and two years later commissioned colonel of the regiment. He was in command of that organization during the border troubles.

With the outbreak of the World war, Colonel Foreman requested the transfer of his regiment to field artillery, which was effected in June, 1917. Colonel Foreman took the regiment to France in 1917 and commanded it throughout the war. He received three citations for gallantry and was awarded the Distinguished Service Medal for achievements in the St. Mihiel and Meuse-Argonne offensives.

While not in the military service, Mr. Foreman practiced law in Chicago and took an active interest in public affairs throughout the state. In 1890 he was elected to the Chicago city council and served six consecutive terms. He was chairman of the Chicago charter convention whose work has become a model for planners of new city charters.

HIKE TO NATIONAL CAPITAL

Plan Suggested by Kansas Committee
man to Tell Lawmakers What
Legion Men Need.

"Join the army and walk around the world!" Do you remember that slogan? Dough boys whose weary feet ate up the kilometers on the other side and the miles on this side so paraphrased the advertising of the recruiting service during the war. But walking won the war.



"Let's keep it up," urges W. F. Kurtz, Kansas national executive committee member of the American Legion. "Let's walk to Washington and tell them what the Legion wants for its disabled and for its whole membership."

According to Mr. Kurtz' plan, delegates from each state department of the Legion would hike overland to the nation's capital, arranging their schedules so as to meet on the White House steps on the same day. However, he would permit representatives from the other side of the Rockies to ride the cushions across to this side.

Legion posts along the way would feed and shelter the hikers. "I'll lead the way, and outwalk anyone in the Legion," the Kansas pedestrian declares.

C. O. D.

An old dorky visited a doctor and received instructions as to what he should do. Shaking his head, he was about to leave the office, when the doctor called out:

"Hey, there, uncle, you forgot to pay me."

"Pay you for what?"

"For my advice."

"Nonsense, boss, I've complained it from all angles and decided not to take it."—American Legion Weekly.

Second Hand.

"I want two sheets of fly paper," said the lady entering the corner general store.

The none-too-brilliant clerk extracted two sheets from the window.

"Ten cents," he said.

"How embarrassing! I've only a nickel with me."

"Aw, I s'pose you can have the two for five cents," he grumbled. "They're half full of flies already."—American Legion Weekly.

THE LEGION BODY OF FRANCE

Ex-Patriated Former Service Men Remains Abroad and Serves in Important Capacity.

When the last of the American expeditionary forces left France, a considerable number of ex-service men remained in that country as representatives of American firms and in various other positions.



Among this group was Col. Francis E. Drake, commander of the department of France, American Legion.

The ex-patriated former service men found that there were mutual ties binding them together and the result was the formation of the Legion's department of France.

Among the achievements of this detached body of Legionnaires are: The direction of the decoration of graves of American soldiers on the battlefields and in the cemeteries of France on Memorial day; aid to stranded veterans in France; the raising of a fund to defend the American sergeants who attempted to capture Bergeat, the arch slacker, on German soil and co-operation with the French government in furthering memorial plans of the American Legion.

Colonel Drake has returned to France after a visit to America, during which he effected arrangements for the decoration of all soldiers' graves on Memorial day, 1921.

The Legion commander attracted national attention when his investigation of the alleged "Rhine Horror" showed that there was no ground for the assertion of pro-Germans that French negro troops are participating in outrages upon German women in the Rhineland provinces.

CONVENTIONS OF 1921 OPEN

Program of Department Gatherings of
Ex-Service Men's Organizations
Inaugurated in Alaska.

When delegates from far-away posts of the American Legion in Alaska met at Valdez on April 12, the program of department conventions of the ex-service men's organization for 1921 was inaugurated.

Departments which have announced the place and date of their 1921 conventions are: Alabama, Florence, June 10 and 11; Arizona, Prescott, August 8; Florida, Orlando, May 16 and 17; Iowa, Spirit Lake, September 1, 2 and 3; Kansas, Hutchinson, August 22, 23 and 24; Kentucky, Lexington, September 2 and 3; Maryland, Ocean City, September 12 and 13; Michigan, Kalamazoo, September 6 and 7; Minnesota, Winona, August 1, 2 and 3; Montana, Lewistown, June 27 and 28; Nebraska, Fremont, September 29, 30 and October 1; New Mexico, Silver City, September 22, 23 and 24; New York, Jamestown, September 30 and October 1; Oregon, Eugene, July 1 and 2; South Dakota, Rapid City, August 23 to 26; Tennessee, Chattanooga, July 8 and 9; Utah, Provo, June 10 and 11; Virginia, Norfolk, September 1, 2 and 3; Washington, Hoquiam, July 14, 15 and 16; Wisconsin, Eau Claire, June 28, 29 and 30.

Other departments which have announced conventions, with the exact date as yet undecided, are: Colorado, Glenwood Springs, October; Louisiana, Bogalusa, early September; Nevada, Gardnerville, July; New Hampshire, Weirs, last week in August; New Jersey, Aushbury Park, September; Oklahoma, Enid, last week in September or first week in October; Pennsylvania, Pittsburgh, between September 15 and 30.

AMERICANISM BILLS GET O. K.

Three Measures Written by the American Legion Become Laws in Oklahoma, June 25.

Three Americanism bills written by the American Legion and introduced in the Oklahoma state legislature at the request of that organization, have been passed by the state lawmaking body, signed by Governor Robertson and will become laws on June 25.

House bill No. 383 provides that the American flag shall be displayed at all times in every school room in the state—public, private and denominational—and that pupils shall be taught proper respect and reverence for it by the state school superintendent. A penalty is provided for violation.

American history and civil government are made compulsory subjects for study in all schools of the state under house bill No. 384.

High schools, colleges, universities and normal schools must require at least one full year's work in American history and civics of each student graduated.

In the future, each teacher who is granted a certificate to teach in Oklahoma must subscribe to an oath of allegiance to the constitution of the United States and of the state of Oklahoma under the terms of house bill No. 380. Teachers found guilty of public statements against the flag or country shall have their certificates revoked.

The bills have been widely praised in the Oklahoma press and have been made a part of the national Americanism program of the American Legion.

GOOD CHEER AT WHITE HOUSE

President Harding's Reported Bill of Fare Certainly Smacks of Democratic Simplicity.

It is said that the Harding White House bill of fare will include chicken pie, as the first lady of the land knows how to make it—and waiters, browned to a turn, by the efficient old-fashioned colored cook of the Harding household.

This smacks of democratic simplicity and "homey" housekeeping of the good old days.

The state breakfast and the diplomatic dinner are necessarily more pretensions, and "old-time eating," served in the old-time way, if not altogether forgotten, is so dignified as to make the satisfying plenty of the home table seem like a far-off dream.

But, allowing for the proprieties of state banquets and the like, there is never a distinguished guest of them all but that has come up from plain "home raising," and still remembers the dishes of old days as more to thank for than all the French refinements of later requests.

The "homeiness" and heartiness of the former linger with them forever in much the same way as they did in the old friend of the "Uncle Remus" stories when, after a certain notable banquet, and he seldom attended such, he remarked: "Now I'm going home to eat!"—Atlanta Constitution.

TENANT FINDS BURIED MONEY

And New Court Must Pick the Owner of Treasure Discovered Hidden in Jars.

Hunters of the finding of a great treasure in the old Holland house have been surprised by the filing of suit in the Fayette county circuit court by the administrators of the Holland estate against a dozen defendants alleged to have shared in the discovery of the treasure, which amounted to \$25,000, says a dispatch from Nottulidge, W. Va., to the Pittsburgh Dispatch. Attachments were served on 50 banks in the surrounding section, where the money is believed to have been deposited.

The story of the treasure reads like romance. In the sixties William Holland, veteran of the Civil war, came to this country from England and settled in the Pennsylvania coal fields. In 1872 he came to Kenney's creek and began the development of a claim. He built a home here in 1885, where he resided until his death in 1918.

He was an eccentric character, and none of his family knew of his habit of hiding money. He died suddenly of heart failure. After Holland's death the treasure passed into the hands of William Nelson, superintendent of the coal company, who began repairs and reconstruction. The gold was found in different jars at different times.

Shuts Out Sound.

Persons who wish to concentrate their attention upon studies, business matters or what not, often find themselves most annoyingly distracted by noises of one kind or another. Street traffic may be disturbing; the crying of a baby may irritate; or perhaps the howling of cats on a back fence or the persistent tooting of a cornet in the neighborhood may induce exasperation.

To obviate this sort of trouble, Galileo Jauregui of Bridgeport, Conn., has devised what he calls the "ear silencer."

It is a frame of light construction which may be fixed upon the head in such a way that two screws carrying soft rubber plugs on their ends are inserted into the ears.

When this adjustment has been made exactly right the two screws that carry the rubber plugs enter the wearer's ears horizontally and have only to be tightened sufficiently in order to fit snugly and exclude all troublesome sounds.

Opossum a Pest in Australia.

New Zealand has a native species of opossum which wears a very beautiful fur. It is not at all like the opossum that we know in this country.

Many years ago it was introduced into Australia, and, finding there none of the natural enemies that preyed upon it in its own land, it has since increased in numbers until it has become a serious pest. It is a robber of fruit trees.

However, the value of the animal for its fur is so great as to outweigh the damage it does in the fruit-growing sections, and in view of this fact, the Australians are encouraging the increase of opossums in forest districts. Their skins are becoming a considerable item of export, and already many of them are made up into fashionable garments for women in the United States.—Philadelphia Ledger.

First American Train Robbery.

Train robbery, a pastime which was for some years very popular in the West, was inaugurated 48 years ago at Verdo, Nevada, when the Overland express was held up and deploiled of about \$50,000. This robbery marked a new departure in the field of crime, for previously only stage coaches and travelers had fallen prey to holdup men. When western outlaws are discussed, the name of Jesse James is usually the first brought up, but he was not the pioneer train robber. That dubious distinction belongs to one Buck Taylor, who, with four companions, pulled off the train holdup which was the first of a long string of similar crimes.

RHODES NEVER WOMAN HATER

But Celebrated "Empire Builder" Had Little Time to Devote to the Gentler Sex.

Cecil Rhodes had the reputation of being a woman hater, but he was by no means a misogynist, though he might have been regarded as a misogynist. He was wedded, it was said, by his friends, to Africa. But his life would have been more complete and no less full of achievement if he had been married to the right woman—at least so says my wife and other women who knew him.

While I have said Rhodes was not a woman hater, he was averse to wasting his time on women of mediocre intellect. Rhodes excused himself for not marrying by saying that he had not the time to give a wife the attention she was entitled to receive.

In his magnificent house at Cape Town there was only one picture. It was a painting of a young woman, beautiful and modest of aspect, by Sir Joshua Reynolds, and hung in the dining room above the fireplace. He loved to look at it and frequently told how he had gained possession of it. As a boy he took a great fancy to this picture, which belonged to a relative, and his love for it increased as he grew to manhood. Eventually he bought it. He always wound up the story by saying: "Now I have my lady, and I am happy."—John Hays Hammond in Scribner's Magazine.

PAY HONOR TO GOD OF FIRE

Japanese Religious Observances That Take Place in Coldest Season of the Year.

A Japanese religious observance peculiar to the coldest season of the year is that of bathing in cold water and wearing to and from the bath a single kimono of pure white, with a white band about the head. The observance, says the Japan Advertiser in a recent issue, is out of respect to Enoshima, the god of fire, primarily. Those observing the custom carry a lantern and jingle a small bell as they go along the street. The season continues for thirty days.

The first fifteen days of the season is called the dafun, or great cold, and the second fifteen days the shok, or small cold. Most of those who go through the ceremony are young men, apprentices in some trade, who run to and from the bath, repeating the words, "Hokkon Shoji," as they go. The principal temple and bath is the one in Fukuwaguchi. The cold water bath there was recently rebuilt at a cost of 300,000 yen in anticipation of the cold season. It is open for women only until 6 o'clock in the evening, but at all hours in the day for men. Among the women are many young actresses, who pray earnestly for success in their profession. Another Fudo shrine is near Meguro station.

Wealth in Beads.

Probably the choicest and most valuable beads in the world are those possessed by the natives of Borneo. In many cases they are very old, and have been kept for centuries in one family.

Some are thought to be of Venetian origin, while others resemble a Roman variety. It is difficult to induce the natives to sell their beads, which they guard as heirlooms. A rich chief may possess old beads to the value of thousands of pounds.

When children are small they are carried on the backs of their mothers in a kind of cradle which is often elaborately adorned with beads. One chief possesses a cradle valued at £200.

Practically Unbeatable.

"My wife," proudly said a citizen of the Ozarks, in the crossroads store, "splits the kindling every morning of the world, packs in the stove-wood, builds the fire, milks three cows, gets six kids ready for school, sews, mends and bakes, and then has the house all reddeed up before it comes time to put the dinner to cooking. And I'd just sarter like to know who can beat her."

"Well," returned a bystander, "as she's probly tolerable muscular and I hain't been right well myself since way long last spring, and she hain't my wife, no way, while mebbe I could beat her, I'm yur to say that I hain't got the slightest idy of trying it."—Country Gentleman.

Ancient Pictures.

Mankind has always loved pictures. Races, without a written language, have left behind them rude carvings and murals to attest the fact. When an industry arose that appealed to this ancient appetite with pictures that moved, it did not have to wait long to see whether it would die or flourish. A dozen years ago the motion picture business, as we now know it, did not exist. Today the American public supports 16,500 moving picture theaters, makes 5,000,000,000 visits to them a year and spends \$750,000,000 annually for the amusement.—The Nation's Business.

Spelling His Style.

"Don't you ever read Shakespeare?" "I used to," said the alert scenario writer.

"Yes?"

"I'll have to acknowledge that bird is pretty good, but I found that reading his plays was making my style a little heavy, so I quit."—Birmingham Age-Herald.

LEAVES NOTHING TO CHANCE

Equipment Used in Preparation of Federal Grain Standards Is Beyond Possibility of Error.

Uncle Sam has a perfectly equipped miniature flour mill and bakery in Washington which, despite its small size, draws its grist from all over the world. The mill and bakery is part of the equipment of the bureau of Agriculture. Its principal object is to supply information which is of use in the preparation and revision of federal grain standards.

Hundreds of samples representing various grades, conditions and varieties of wheat are sent in to the little mill and each of these samples is cleaned, scoured, tempered, ground, holed and baked in an electric oven. After baking, the specialists can study the weight, volume, color, and texture of the bread and record of results obtained from the sample of wheat that was used. There is no chance for error in making these comparisons, as all the samples are treated exactly alike; the milling operations are carefully duplicated and the same recipe is used in mixing the bread and baking it.

The volume test is made by placing the baked loaf in a vessel of known cubical content. Flaxseed, which finds its way into every crevice and does not cling to the loaf, is poured in around the loaf until the vessel is full. The quantity of flaxseed used is then measured, and the difference in volume of the vessel and the volume of the flaxseed needed to fill the crevices between the sides of the loaf and the wall of the receptacle represents the volume of the loaf. It is surprising to note the difference in volume of two loaves made from different varieties of wheat.

BARRED THE OVERHEAD SIGN

Authorities of City of London Prohibited the Projecting Nuisance in Eighteenth Century.

Many things to which we are now so thoroughly accustomed that they seem natural and obvious took the world a long time to think of, observes Everyday Science. Numbering the houses or shops in a street as a means of identifying them seems a very simple device, but nobody thought of it until well on in the Eighteenth century.

Until then they got on as well as they could with no numbers, and in London streets, like Cheapside, every shopkeeper tried to outdo his rivals in the size and grandeur of his signboard. They projected over the street, and every now and then fell down and killed somebody. They creaked and groaned terribly whenever the wind blew, and it shows what a nuisance they were that within a year of house numbering being introduced signboards which projected from the walls were prohibited.

The first London street to be numbered in March, 1764, was New Burlington street, and the next Lincoln's Inn Fields.

The Best Will Take Most Polish.

In the handful of shingle which you gather from the sea-beach, which the indiscriminate sea, with equality of fraternal foam, has only educated to be, every one, round, you will see little difference between the noble and mean stones. But the jeweler's trenchant education of them will tell you another story. Even the meanest will be better for it, but the noblest so much better that you can class the two together no more. The fair veins and colors are all clear now, and so stern is nature's intent regarding this, that not only the polish show which is best, but the best will take most polish. You shall not merely see they have more virtue than the others, but see that more of virtue more clearly; and the less virtue there is, the more dully you shall see what there is of it.—John Ruskin.

Wonderful Measurement.

Persons who are devoting themselves to the science of measuring the small things of the universe will best appreciate the achievement attributed to Prof. Pedersen of Copenhagen university, who is said to have invented a method by which he can measure the thousand-millionth part of a second. Physicists can accurately weigh quantities as small as the 500-thousandth part of a milligram, of which it takes 28,350 to balance an ounce, and an instrument exists by which the 70-millionth part of an inch can be measured.

At the other end of the time scale there is the astronomer's unit for sounding the depths of stellar space—a "light year," the distance traversed by a ray of light in a year, moving without cessation at a speed of 186,300 miles a second.

Owls and Crows.

Owls are the pet aversion of crows. In daylight they heap complete vituperation upon an owl's head, that the process thus baldly reveals to what vulgar depths at times bird nature may fall. Crows will hang about in squads tormenting, scolding, pitching at the silent owl and then retreating, for a day at a time, never ceasing their aspersions and denunciations—but they always act in concert, never alone. At night the role of pursuer is changed; the silent, grim raptor makes little return by way of tumult, but the effectiveness of his retaliation is not open to question.